Applications of Canonical Transformations

Subhashish Banerjee and Joachim Kupsch[*]
Fachbereich Physik, TU Kaiserslautern, D-67653 Kaiserslautern, Germany

Canonical transformations are defined and discussed along with the exponential, the coherent and the ultracoherent vectors. It is shown that the single-mode and the n-mode squeezing operators are elements of the group of canonical transformations. An application of canonical transformations is made, in the context of open quantum systems, by studying the effect of squeezing of the bath on the decoherence properties of the system. Two cases are analyzed. In the first case the bath consists of a massless bosonic field with the bath reference states being the squeezed vacuum states and squeezed thermal states while in the second case a system consisting of a harmonic oscillator interacting with a bath of harmonic oscillators is analyzed with the bath being initially in a squeezed thermal state.

PACS numbers: 03.65.-w, 03.65.Yz, 05.30.-d

I. Introduction

The transformations preserving the form of the Hamilton equations are known as the canonical transformations in classical mechanics. Their counterparts in quantum mechanics are those that preserve the commutation relations between the creation and the annihilation operators. Many physical consequences can be derived from canonical transformations in quantum mechanics [1]. For instance, in the phase-space picture the uncertainty relations are formulated in terms of the area occupied by the Wigner function [2]. The spread of the wave packet is an area-preserving canonical transformation in quantum mechanics. The Lorentz boost in a given direction is a canonical transformation in phase space using the light-cone variables. This allows the formulation of the uncertainty relations in a Lorentz-invariant manner.

Decoherence is a consequence of the 'openness' of a physical system [3, 4, 5, 6], i.e., the system is not isolated but is in contact with its environment. This causes the decay of the quantum interferences between component states of quantum superposition states which quantify the nonclassical effects in quantum mechanics. From this and also from the point of view of quantum computation it would be very desirable to have some means of stabilizing the quantum superpositions against action of the environment [7, 8, 9, 10, 11]. In this context, a number of studies have been made [12, 13] which have shown that the phase-sensitive squeezed reservoirs (environment) are better suited to the task of controlling decoherence than the phase-insensitive thermal heat bath (reservoir). Squeezed baths are characterized by the fact that correlations exist between the bath modes [14].

In this paper we will discuss some applications of the generalized canonical transformations the details of which have been formulated in [15]. The plan of the paper is as follows. In Section II we will review canonical transformations illustrating its group structure and discuss the exponential, the coherent and the ultracoherent vectors as well as the canonical transformations in Fock space. In Section III we will demonstrate the single-mode and the n-mode squeezing operators to be elements of the group of canonical transformations and thus apply their unitary ray representations to the coherent as well as the ultracoherent states. In Section IV as an application of squeezing to open quantum systems, we discuss the effect of squeezing of the bath on the decoherence properties of the system. In Section IV(A) we discuss the induced superselection rules of a class of Hamiltonian models with the environment given by a massless bosonic field and the environment reference states being squeezed vacuum and squeezed thermal states. In Section IV(B) we make use of the squeezed thermal state on a generic model of open quantum systems and demonstrate its ability to put a check on the decoherence properties of the system. In Section V we make our conclusions. We have also included an appendix in which we discuss some details of the ultracoherent vector and its connection with canonical transformations.

II. Ultracoherent vectors and canonical transformations

In this section we recapitulate the properties of canonical transformations on a Fock space using coherent and ultracoherent vectors. A more detailed presentation of this technique will be given in [15], see also Appendix A of the present paper. We start with some basic definitions and notations about the Fock space of symmetric tensors. Let \mathcal{H} be Hilbert space with inner product $(f \mid g)$ and with an antiunitary involution $f \to f^*$. The mapping $f, g \to \langle f \mid g \rangle := (f^* \mid g) \in \mathbb{C}$ is then a symmetric bilinear form. An explicit and representative example is $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{C}^n$ with $(f \mid g) = \sum_{\mu=1}^n \overline{f_\mu} g_\mu$ and $(f \mid g) = \sum_{\mu=1}^n f_\mu g_\mu$ for $f = (f_1, ..., f_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n$ and $g = (g_1, ..., g_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n$. The involution

is simply complex conjugation $f^* = (\overline{f}_1, ..., \overline{f}_n)$. With the symmetric tensor product $f \circ g$ the Hilbert space \mathcal{H} generates the bosonic Fock space $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H})$. The vacuum vector is denoted by 1_{vac} . For all vectors $f \in \mathcal{H}$ the exponential vectors $\exp f = 1_{vac} + f + \frac{1}{2}f \circ f + ...$ converge within $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H})$, the inner product being $(\exp f \mid \exp g) = \exp(f \mid g)$. Coherent states are the normalized exponential vectors $\exp\left(f - \frac{1}{2}\|f\|^2\right)$. The linear span of all exponential vectors $\{\exp f \mid f \in \mathcal{H}\}$ is dense in $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H})$. To determine an operator on $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H})$ it is therefore sufficient to know this operator on all exponential vectors. The involution on \mathcal{H} is naturally extended to an involution on $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H})$ such that $(\exp f)^* = \exp f^*$, $f \in \mathcal{H}$. The mapping $f, g \in \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H}) \to \langle f \mid g \rangle = (f^* \mid g) \in \mathbb{C}$ is again a bilinear symmetric form.

A class of elements of the Fock space more general than coherent vectors are the ultracoherent vectors [16]. Let A be a Hilbert-Schmidt operator on \mathcal{H} , which is symmetric, i.e., $\langle Af \mid g \rangle = \langle f \mid Ag \rangle$ holds for all $f, g \in \mathcal{H}$, then there exists a unique tensor of second degree, in the sequel denoted by $\Omega(A)$, such that

$$\langle \Omega(A) \mid f \circ g \rangle = \langle Af \mid g \rangle \tag{1}$$

for all $f,g \in \mathcal{H}$. To be more explicit, let $e_{\mu} = e_{\mu}^{*}$ be a real orthonormal basis of the Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , then $\Omega(A)$ is the tensor $\Omega(A) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mu\nu} A_{\mu\nu} e_{\mu} \circ e_{\nu}$ where the coefficients $A_{\mu\nu} = \langle e_{\mu} \mid A e_{\nu} \rangle = A_{\nu\mu}$ have a convergent sum $\sum_{\mu\nu} |A_{\mu\nu}|^{2} < \infty$. If $A^{\dagger}A < I$ (all eigenvalues strictly less than one) then the norm of $\Omega(A)$ is strictly less than $1/\sqrt{2}$ and the exponential series $\exp \Omega(A)$ converges within the Fock space, the norm being $\|\exp \Omega(A)\| = \det(I - A^{\dagger}A)^{-\frac{1}{4}}$. We denote with \mathcal{D}_{1} the set of all symmetric Hilbert-Schmidt operators with $A^{\dagger}A < I$. The convex set \mathcal{D}_{1} is usually called the Siegel disc. For any operator $Z \in \mathcal{D}_{1}$ and for any $f \in \mathcal{H}$ we now define the ultracoherent vector

$$\mathcal{E}(Z, f) = \exp \Omega(Z) \circ \exp f = \exp (\Omega(Z) + f) \in \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H}). \tag{2}$$

The standard building blocks of a bosonic theory are the creation and annihilation operators. Given a vector $f \in \mathcal{H}$ the creation operator $b^{\dagger}(f)$ of that vector and the annihilation operator b(f) are uniquely determined by

$$b^{\dagger}(f) \exp g = f \circ \exp g = \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \exp(g + \lambda f) \mid_{\lambda=0},$$
 (3)

$$b(f)\exp g = \langle f \mid g \rangle \exp g = (f^* \mid g) \exp g. \tag{4}$$

These operators satisfy $(b^{\dagger}(f))^{\dagger} = b(f^*)$, and they have the commutation relations $[b^{\dagger}(f), b^{\dagger}(g)] = [b(f), b(g)] = 0$ and $[b(f), b^{\dagger}(g)] = \langle f \mid g \rangle$. If we choose an orthonormal basis e_{μ} , $\mu = 1, 2, ...$, of \mathcal{H} , then the operators $b_{\mu}^{\dagger} = b^{\dagger}(e_{\mu})$ and $b_{\nu} = b(e_{\nu}^{*})$ form a basis of the operator algebra and satisfy the canonical commutation relations

$$[b^{\dagger}_{\mu}, b^{\dagger}_{\nu}] = [b_{\mu}, b_{\nu}] = 0,$$
 (5)

$$\left[b_{\mu}, b_{\nu}^{\dagger}\right] = \delta_{\mu\nu}.\tag{6}$$

Below we shall use a notation of [17]. Let B be a self-adjoint operator on \mathcal{H} and e_{μ} be a orthonormal basis of the Hilbert space \mathcal{H} . Then

$$b^{\dagger}Bb = \sum_{\mu\nu} \left(e_{\mu} \mid Be_{\nu}\right) b_{\mu}^{\dagger}b_{\nu} \tag{7}$$

is a well defined self-adjoint operator on the Fock space. The operators b^{\dagger}_{μ} , b_{ν} and the matrix elements $(e_{\mu} \mid Be_{\nu})$ depend explicitly on the choice of the basis, but (7) does not. Let A be a symmetric Hilbert-Schmidt operator then $b^{\dagger}Ab^{\dagger}$ and $b\overline{A}b$ are defined as

$$b^{\dagger}Ab^{\dagger} = \sum_{\mu\nu} \langle e_{\mu} \mid Ae_{\nu} \rangle b_{\mu}^{\dagger} b_{\nu}^{\dagger} \text{ and } b\overline{A}b = (b^{\dagger}Ab^{\dagger})^{\dagger} = \sum_{\mu\nu} \overline{\langle e_{\mu} \mid Ae_{\nu} \rangle} b_{\mu} b_{\nu}. \tag{8}$$

For arbitrary elements $h \in \mathcal{H}$ the Weyl operators are defined on the set of exponential vectors by

$$W(h) \exp f = \exp\left(-(h \mid f) - \frac{1}{2} \|h\|^2\right) \exp(f + h). \tag{9}$$

These operators are unitary with $W^{\dagger}(h) = W(-h) = W^{-1}(h)$. The definition (3) is equivalent to

$$W(h) = \exp\left(b^{\dagger}(h) - b(h^*)\right). \tag{10}$$

The identities (3) - (9) imply

$$W(h)b^{\dagger}_{\mu}W(h) = b^{\dagger}_{\mu} - \overline{h}_{\mu}, \tag{11}$$

$$W(h)b_{\nu}W(h) = b_{\nu} - h_{\nu}. \tag{12}$$

Hence the Weyl operators are the displacement operators of quantum optics. As already stated, the linear span of exponential vectors or coherent vectors is dense in the Fock space. From (9) immediately follows that the Weyl operators map this set into itself. Moreover, the identity $W(h)1_{vac} = \exp\left(h - \frac{1}{2}\|h\|^2\right)$ implies that the linear span of $\{W(h)1_{vac} \mid h \in \mathcal{H}\}$ is exactly the linear span of all coherent states. The action of the Weyl operator on an ultracoherent vector is [15]

$$W(h)\exp(\Omega(A) + f) = e^{-\frac{1}{2}\|h\|^2 + \frac{1}{2}\langle h^*|Ah^* - 2f\rangle}\exp(\Omega(A) + f + h - Ah^*).$$
(13)

Hence the Weyl operators map ultracoherent vectors onto ultracoherent vectors.

Canonical transformations are affine linear transformations between the creation and annihilation operators preserving the commutation relations. From (11) and (12) immediately follows that Weyl operators generate inhomogeneous canonical transformations. Treating the most general linear homogeneous transformations we have

$$b^{\dagger}(f) \to b^{\dagger}(Uf) - b(\overline{V}f), \, b(f) \to b(\overline{U}f) - b^{\dagger}(Vf).$$
 (14)

Here U and V are bounded operators on the Hilbert space \mathcal{H} . The operators \overline{U} (and \overline{V}) are defined by $\overline{U}f = (Uf^*)^*$ and U^T means $U^T = (\overline{U})^{\dagger} = \overline{U^{\dagger}}$. In the case of $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{C}^n$ the corresponding matrices are just the complex conjugate or the transposed matrix. The transformation (14) is equivalent to the following transformation of the argument of the Weyl operator (10)

$$b^{\dagger}(f) - b(f^*) \to b^{\dagger}(Uf + Vf^*) - b(\overline{U}f^* + \overline{V}f),$$
 (15)

which can be better visualized by the mapping of the test functions

$$\begin{pmatrix} f \\ f^* \end{pmatrix} \to \begin{pmatrix} \overline{U}f + \overline{V}f^* \\ \overline{V}f + \overline{U}f^* \end{pmatrix} = \widehat{G} \begin{pmatrix} f \\ f^* \end{pmatrix}$$
 (16)

where the matrix of operators

$$\widehat{G} = \left(\frac{U}{V} \frac{V}{U}\right) \tag{17}$$

maps the underlying real space of \mathcal{H} , parametrized by the vectors $\begin{pmatrix} f \\ f^* \end{pmatrix}$, $f \in \mathcal{H}$, into itself. The transformations (14) preserve the canonical commutation relations, if

$$\widehat{G}\Theta\widehat{G}^{\dagger} = \Theta \tag{18}$$

and

$$\Delta \widehat{G} \Delta = \overline{\widehat{G}} \tag{19}$$

with

$$\Theta = \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & -I \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Delta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I \\ I & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \tag{20}$$

From these, we can derive the equivalent conditions for the transformations to be canonical as

$$UU^{\dagger} - VV^{\dagger} = I, \ UV^T = VU^T, \tag{21}$$

or

$$U^{\dagger}U - V^{T}\overline{V} = I, \ U^{T}\overline{V} = V^{\dagger}U. \tag{22}$$

The operators (17) form the group \mathcal{G}_c of linear canonical transformations, which are often called Bogoliubov transformations [18]. Thereby it is sufficient to identify the mapping G = G(U, V) in the first line of (16)

$$f \in \mathcal{H} \to G(U, V) f = U f + V f^* \in \mathcal{H},$$
 (23)

which is an \mathbb{R} -linear transformation on \mathcal{H} . The successive application of canonical transformations corresponds to the multiplication of the respective matrix operators (17) or of the respective operators (23). In the latter case the multiplication law follows from the definition as

$$G_2G_1f = G_2(U_1f + V_1f^*) = (U_2U_1 + V_2\overline{V}_1)f + (U_2V_1 + V_2\overline{U}_1)f^*.$$
(24)

The inverse mapping of (23) is

$$G^{-1}(U,V)f = U^{\dagger}f - V^{T}f^{*} = G(U^{\dagger}, -V^{T})f.$$
(25)

In the finite dimensional case $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{C}^n$ the identity (18) implies that \mathcal{G}_c is a subgroup of SU(n, n). The identity (19) is an additional reality constraint, such that \mathcal{G}_c is isomorphic to the real symplectic group [19].

For finite dimensional Hilbert spaces \mathcal{H} the canonical transformations (14) can always be implemented by unitary operators on the Fock space $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H})$; in the infinite dimensional case one needs the additional constraint that V is a Hilbert-Schmidt operator [17, 20].

In order to define canonical transformations in Fock space, we set up a projective representation of the group \mathcal{G}_c by identifying for each element G of \mathcal{G}_c a unitary operator T(G) on $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H})$ such that

$$T(id) = I, T(G_2)T(G_1) = \omega(G_2, G_1)T(G_2G_1)$$
(26)

with a multiplier $\omega(G_2, G_1) \in \mathbb{C}$, $|\omega(G_2, G_1)| = 1$. It is sufficient to define T(G) on the set of exponential vectors

$$T(G)\exp f = \det |U|^{-\frac{1}{2}}\exp\left(\Omega(U^{\dagger - 1}V^T) + U^{\dagger - 1}f - \frac{1}{2}\left\langle f \mid V^{\dagger}U^{\dagger - 1}f\right\rangle\right). \tag{27}$$

Thereby the operator $|U| = \sqrt{UU^{\dagger}} = \sqrt{I + VV^{\dagger}} \ge I$ is the positive self-adjoint part of U. Since V is a Hilbert-Schmidt operator, we know that |U| - I is a trace class operator, and the determinant $\det |U|$ is well defined also if $\dim \mathcal{H} = \infty$. The formula (27) shows that in general canonical transformations map coherent vectors – including the vacuum – onto ultracoherent vectors. This class of vectors turns out to be stable against canonical transformations, see Appendix A and [15]. In order to work out the group structure of T(G), its action on the ultracoherent vector (2) is also needed. This is illustrated in Appendix A and [15].

All canonical transformations are products of the following two classes of canonical transformations, cf. [19].

1. Take a self-adjoint operator $\Psi = \Psi^{\dagger}$ on \mathcal{H} . Then

$$\widehat{G} = \exp i \begin{pmatrix} \Psi & 0 \\ 0 & -\overline{\Psi} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U & 0 \\ 0 & \overline{U} \end{pmatrix}$$
 (28)

is a matrix operator of the type (17), where the unitary operator

$$U = \exp i\Psi \tag{29}$$

and V = 0 obviously satisfy the conditions (21). The transformation (23) G(U, 0) coincides with the unitary operator U. We simply denote T(G(U, 0)) by R(U). From (27) we obtain

$$R(U)\exp f = \exp Uf. \tag{30}$$

In this case the homogeneous canonical transformations map coherent states onto coherent states, and ultracoherent vectors are mapped onto

$$R(U)\exp\left(\Omega(Z) + f\right) = \exp\left(\Omega(UZU^T) + Uf\right). \tag{31}$$

2. As the second case of a canonical transformation take a symmetric Hilbert-Schmidt operator $\Xi = \Xi^T$ on \mathcal{H} . Then

$$\widehat{G} = \exp\left(\begin{array}{c} 0 & \Xi \\ \overline{\Xi} & 0 \end{array}\right) = \left(\begin{array}{c} U & V \\ \overline{V} & \overline{U} \end{array}\right) \tag{32}$$

is a matrix operator of the type (17) with the bounded operators

$$U = \cosh\sqrt{\Xi\Xi} \ge I \quad \text{and} \quad V = \Xi \frac{\sinh\sqrt{\Xi\Xi}}{\sqrt{\Xi\Xi}} = \frac{\sinh\sqrt{\Xi\Xi}}{\sqrt{\Xi\Xi}} \Xi = V^T,$$
 (33)

which satisfy the conditions (21). Moreover, U-I is a positive trace class operator and V is a Hilbert-Schmidt operator. We use the short notation $G_{\Xi} = G\left(\cosh\sqrt{\Xi\Xi}, \Xi\left(\overline{\Xi\Xi}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}}\sinh\sqrt{\Xi\Xi}\right)$ and $S(\Xi) = T\left(G_{\Xi}\right)$. The definition (27) yields

$$S(\Xi) \exp f = \det \left(\cosh \sqrt{\Xi \Xi} \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \times \exp \left\{ \Omega \left(\frac{\tanh \sqrt{\Xi \Xi}}{\sqrt{\Xi \Xi}} \Xi \right) + \left(\cosh \sqrt{\Xi \Xi} \right)^{-1} f - \frac{1}{2} \left\langle f \mid \overline{\Xi} \frac{\tanh \sqrt{\Xi \Xi}}{\sqrt{\Xi \Xi}} f \right\rangle \right\}.$$
(34)

In the next Section we shall see that these operators produce the squeezing of quantum optics. If $\Xi = \overline{\Xi} = \Xi^{\dagger}$ is real and self-adjoint, then (32) becomes

$$\widehat{G} = \begin{pmatrix} \cosh \Xi & \sinh \Xi \\ \sinh \Xi & \cosh \Xi \end{pmatrix} \tag{35}$$

and (34) simplifies to

$$S(\Xi) \exp f = \det\left(\cosh\Xi\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \exp\left(\Omega\left(\tanh\Xi\right) + \left(\cosh\Xi\right)^{-1} f - \frac{1}{2} \left\langle f \mid \tanh\Xi f \right\rangle\right). \tag{36}$$

From (28) and (32) we see that all these canonical transformations can be considered as elements of one parameter subgroups, and we can easily obtain the Lie algebra of the representation T(G).

The unitary operator (29) can be extended to a one parameter group $U(t) = \exp i\Psi t$. The generator of the group T(U(t)) is then calculated from $K_{\Psi} \exp f := -i\frac{d}{dt}T(\exp it\Psi) \exp f \mid_{t=0} = \Psi f \circ \exp f$ as

$$K_{\Psi} = b^{\dagger} \Psi b, \tag{37}$$

such that the operator R(U) (30) is given by

$$R = \exp ib^{\dagger} \Psi b. \tag{38}$$

For the proof of the identity (37) it is sufficient to choose a rank one operator $\Psi = |g\rangle \langle g^*|$. Then $b^{\dagger}\Psi b = b^{\dagger}(g)b(g^*)$ and $b^{\dagger}(g)b(g^*) \exp f = g \langle g^*| f \rangle \exp f = \Psi f \circ \exp f$.

For fixed Ξ the operators $G(\lambda) = G_{\lambda\Xi}$, $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, form a one parameter group of symplectic transformations with G(0) = id and $G(\lambda_1)G(\lambda_2) = G(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)$. Using formula (A5) it is straightforward to check that $G(\lambda) \to S(\lambda) = T(G(\lambda))$ is a faithful unitary representation of this subgroup. If $S(\lambda)$ is applied to coherent states we obtain from (34)

$$\frac{d}{d\lambda}S(\lambda)\exp f\mid_{\lambda=0}=\Omega(\Xi)\circ\exp f-\frac{1}{2}\left\langle f\mid\overline{\Xi}f\right\rangle\exp f=K_{\Xi}\exp f. \tag{39}$$

Since the linear span of coherent states is dense this completely fixes the generator of this group. Using creation and annihilation operators this generator is identified with

$$K_{\Xi} = \frac{1}{2} \left(b^{\dagger} \Xi b^{\dagger} - b \overline{\Xi} b \right), \tag{40}$$

and S_{Ξ} is given by

$$S(\Xi) = \exp\frac{1}{2} \left(b^{\dagger} \Xi b^{\dagger} - b \overline{\Xi} b \right). \tag{41}$$

To prove the identity (40) it is sufficient to choose a symmetric rank one operator $\Xi = |h\rangle\langle h|$ with $h \in \mathcal{H}$. Then the application of $b^{\dagger} \pm b^{\dagger} - b \overline{\pm} b = b^{\dagger}(h)b^{\dagger}(h) - b(h^*)b(h^*)$ onto a coherent state yields, see (3) and (4), $(b^{\dagger} \pm b^{\dagger} - b \overline{\pm} b) \exp f = b^{\dagger}(h)b^{\dagger}(h) - b(h^*)b(h^*)$ $(h \circ h - \langle h^* \mid f \rangle^2) \exp f$. On the other hand we have $2\Omega(\Xi) = h \circ h$ and $\langle f \mid \overline{\Xi} f \rangle = \langle h^* \mid f \rangle^2$, and (40) follows. The Weyl operator and the homogeneous canonical transformations are related by the identity

$$T(G)W(h)T^{+}(G) = W(Gh), \tag{42}$$

where G is the mapping (23). This follows from (13) and (A5). Actually this identity can already be inferred from (10) and (15), if the existence of the unitary representation T(G) is taken for granted.

III. Squeezed states and connection with canonical transformations

A. Single-mode squeeze operator

If $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{C}$ the expressions of Sect. II simplify considerably. Then the operator Ξ in (32) is just a complex number $\xi \in \mathbb{C}$. The single-mode squeeze operator is now defined in agreement with the squeeze operators in [21, 22] as a special case of (41)

$$S_{\xi} = \exp\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(\xi b^{\dagger 2} - \xi^* b^2\right)\right)$$
$$= \exp\left(iO(\xi)\right) \tag{43}$$

where $\xi = re^{i\theta}$ and

$$O(\xi) = \frac{1}{2i} \left(\xi b^{\dagger 2} - \xi^* b^2 \right). \tag{44}$$

Here b, b^{\dagger} are the creation and annihilation operators. Now using a single-mode rotation operator defined as, see (38),

$$T(\phi) = \exp\left(i\phi b^{\dagger}b\right) \text{ with } \phi \in \mathbb{R}$$
 (45)

one has

$$T^{\dagger}(\phi)O(\xi)T(\phi) = O(\xi e^{-i2\phi}). \tag{46}$$

For $\phi = \frac{\theta}{2}$ it follows from the above equation that $O(\xi)$ is unitarily equivalent to O(r). Thus we can see that S_{ξ} is unitarily equivalent to S_r . In the notation of Sect. II the operator S_r is exactly of the form (36).

The Lie algebra of the squeeze operator defined by Eq. (43) is spanned by

$$B_{+} = \frac{1}{2}b^{\dagger}b^{\dagger}, B_{-} = -\frac{1}{2}bb, J_{3} = \frac{1}{2}(b^{\dagger}b + \frac{1}{2}). \tag{47}$$

These operators satisfy the commutation relations [23]

$$[B_+, B_-] = 2J_3, [J_3, B_+] = \pm B_+.$$
 (48)

B. n-mode squeeze operator

If $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{C}^n$ we can generalize this case to n-modes. Let Ξ be an $n \times n$ symmetric (complex) matrix. We define the n-mode squeeze operator as the canonical transformation (41)

$$S(\Xi) = \exp\frac{1}{2} \left(b^{\dagger} \Xi b^{\dagger} - b \overline{\Xi} b \right). \tag{49}$$

An *n*-mode rotation operator is the canonical transformation (38)

$$T(\Phi) = \exp\left(ib^{\dagger}\Phi b\right) \tag{50}$$

where Φ is an $n \times n$ Hermitian matrix. From (31) and (34) the well known identity

$$T^{\dagger}(\Phi)S(\Xi)T(\Phi) = S(e^{-i\Phi}\Xi e^{-i\Phi^{T}}),\tag{51}$$

cf. [21], follows. Using the fact that Ξ is an $n \times n$ symmetric matrix and Φ is an $n \times n$ Hermitian matrix, it can be shown (cf. Ref. [24]: Appendix II, Lemma 1) that

$$e^{-i\hat{\Phi}}\Xi e^{-i\hat{\Phi}^T} = \Xi_D \tag{52}$$

where Ξ_D is real diagonal with non negative elements $(d_1,...,d_n)$. Thus S_Ξ is unitarily equivalent to

$$T^{\dagger}(\Phi)S(\Xi)T(\Phi) = S^{(1)}(d_1)S^{(2)}(d_2)\dots S^{(n)}(d_n)$$
(53)

where $S^{(k)}$ denotes a single-mode (k) squeeze operator as considered above. The action of the squeezing operator on the exponential and the ultracoherent vectors can be deduced from Eq. (36) and Eq. (A5) respectively.

IV. Effect of Squeezing of the Bath on the decoherence properties of the system

In this section we will, as an application, discuss the effect of squeezing of the bath on the decoherence properties of the system. In Section IV (A) we take up a class of models with a massless bosonic field representing the environment (bath) with the squeezed vacuum and squeezed thermal states representing the reference states of the environment and in Section IV (B) we make use of the squeezed thermal states on a generic open quantum system model and demonstrate its ability to put a check on the decoherence properties of the system.

A. Superselection and squeezing

The central idea behind 'Open Systems' is that a system is not isolated but in contact with its surroundings called its environment (reservoir) which influences the time evolution of the system making it nonunitary. Decoherence is motivated by the 'openness' of the system and describes how classical properties emerge from an inherent quantum dynamics. This can be thought of as a superselection rule induced by the environment [5]. The central feature in these studies is the reduced density matrix of the system (ρ_S) of interest obtained by taking a trace over the environment

$$\rho_S(t) = \operatorname{tr}_B U(t) \left(\rho_S \otimes \rho_B \right) U^{\dagger}(t) \tag{54}$$

where $\rho(0) = \rho_S \otimes \rho_R$ is the initial state of the system-reservoir complex and U(t) is the unitary operator describing the unitary time evolution of the entire system-reservoir complex. Here S and R stand for the system and reservoir respectively.

The dynamics of the total system-reservoir complex is said to induce superselection rules [25, 26] into the system S, if there exist projection operators $\{P_S(\Delta) \mid \Delta \subset \mathbb{R}\}$ on the Hilbert space \mathcal{H}_S such that

$$P_S(\Delta^1)\rho_S(t)P_S(\Delta^2) \to 0 \quad \text{if } t \to \infty \text{ and } \operatorname{dist}(\Delta^1, \Delta^2) > 0,$$
 (55)

i.e., the off-diagonal parts $P_S(\Delta^1)\rho_S(t)P_S(\Delta^2)$ of the statistical operators of the system S are dynamically suppressed. In any concrete case one has to specify this decrease. For our model we can derive a uniform decrease of the trace norm

$$||P_S(\Delta^1)\rho_S(t)P_S(\Delta^2)||_1 \to 0 \quad \text{if } t \to \infty \text{ and } \operatorname{dist}(\Delta^1, \Delta^2) > 0.$$
 (56)

Here the projection operators $P_S(\Delta)$ are defined for all intervals $\Delta \subset \mathbb{R}$ of the real line and satisfy

$$P_S(\Delta^1 \cup \Delta^2) = P_S(\Delta^1) + P_S(\Delta^2) \quad \text{if} \quad \Delta^1 \cap \Delta^2 = \emptyset$$

$$P_S(\Delta^1)P_S(\Delta^2) = P_S(\Delta^1 \cap \Delta^2), \ P_S(\emptyset) = 0, \ P_S(\mathbb{R}) = 1.$$
(57)

Now we take a model with the Hamiltonian, see [25, 26] for details,

$$H = H_S \otimes I_R + I_S \otimes H_R + V_S \otimes V_R, \tag{58}$$

with

$$H_S = \frac{1}{2}P^2 \text{ and } V_S = P \tag{59}$$

where P = -i d/dx is the momentum operator of the particle. We thus have a velocity coupling and a massless boson field is taken as the reservoir. Here H_S is the positive Hamiltonian of S, H_R is the positive Hamiltonian of R, and $V_S \otimes V_R$ is the interaction potential between S and R with operators V_S on \mathcal{H}_S and V_R on \mathcal{H}_R . The unitary operator giving the total system-reservoir dynamics is given by

$$U(t) = (U_S(t) \otimes I_R) \int P_S(d\lambda) \otimes \exp\left(-i\left(H_R + \lambda V_R\right)t\right),\tag{60}$$

where $U_S(t) = \exp(-iH_S t)$, and $P_S(\Delta)$, $\Delta \subset \mathbb{R}$, is the family of projection operators coming from the spectral resolution of V_S

$$V_S = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \lambda P_S(d\lambda). \tag{61}$$

Exactly these projection operators generate the superselection sectors of the model.

The reduced density matrix of the system given by Eq. (54) becomes

$$\rho_S(t) = U_S(t) \left(\int_{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}} \chi(\alpha, \beta; t) P_S(d\alpha) \rho_S P_S(d\beta) \right) U_S^{\dagger}(t), \tag{62}$$

with the trace over the reservoir

$$\chi(\alpha, \beta; t) = \operatorname{tr}_{R} \left(e^{i(H_{R} + \alpha V_{R})t} e^{-i(H_{R} + \beta V_{R})t} \rho_{R} \right).$$
(63)

As concrete case we take a massless boson field as reservoir. The Hilbert space \mathcal{H}_R is the Fock space $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H}_1)$ generated by the one particle space \mathcal{H}_1 of the bosons. The Hamiltonian H_R is given by

$$H_R = \int d^n k \ \varepsilon(k) a_k^{\dagger} a_k \tag{64}$$

where $\varepsilon(k) = c|k|$ $(c > 0, k \in \mathbb{R}^n)$ is the positive energy function associated with the one-particle Hamilton operator M on \mathcal{H}_1

$$(Mf)(k) = \varepsilon(k)f(k). \tag{65}$$

The interaction potential V_R is taken here as the self-adjoint operator

$$V_R = \Phi(h) := a^{\dagger}(h) + a(h),$$
 (66)

where the real vector $h = h^* \in \mathcal{H}_1$ satisfies the constraint $2 \left\| M^{-\frac{1}{2}} h \right\| \leq 1$. This enables us to define the Hamiltonian given by Eq. (58) as a well defined semibounded operator. The Hamiltonian $H(\alpha) = H_R + \alpha \Phi(h)$ describes the van Hove model [27]. It is defined as a semibounded self-adjoint operator on the Fock space $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H}_1)$ if $h \in \mathcal{D}(M^{-\frac{1}{2}}) \subset \mathcal{H}_1$, i.e., h is in the domain of $M^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ where M is the one-particle Hamilton operator of the boson field.

If the reference state of the environment is a coherent state, then the trace (63) coincides up to a phase factor with the expectation of a Weyl operator in the state of the environment [25, 26]

$$\chi(\alpha, \beta; t) = e^{-i\varphi(\alpha, \beta, t)} \operatorname{tr}_R W((\alpha - \beta)k(t))\rho_R$$
(67)

with the vector

$$k(t) = (e^{iMt} - I) M^{-1}h = M^{-1}(\cos Mt - I)h + i M^{-1}\sin Mt h.$$
(68)

The phase $\varphi(\alpha, \beta, t)$, which also depends on the reference state, is not needed for the following arguments. The trace in (67) is easily calculated if the reference state ρ_R is the vacuum. Making use of the fact that the Weyl operator acts on the vacuum to produce the coherent state and the expectation of the Weyl operator in the vacuum is given by

$$(1_{vac} \mid W(h)1_{vac}) = e^{-\frac{1}{2}||h||^2},$$
(69)

as can be inferred from Eq. (A7) in Appendix A by setting f = g = 0, the trace in (67) follows as

$$\chi(\alpha, \beta; t) = e^{-i\varphi(\alpha, \beta, t)} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}(\alpha - \beta)^2 \|k(t)\|^2\right\}.$$
(70)

Here k(t) is as given in Eq. (68). In [25, 26] it has been shown that the operator (61) is a superselection operator, if

$$\|k(t)\|^{2} = \|(I - \cos Mt)M^{-1}h\|^{2} + \|M^{-1}\sin Mth\|^{2}$$
(71)

diverges for $t \to \infty$, and it is found that the conditions for such a divergence are $h \in \mathcal{D}(M^{-\frac{1}{2}})$ and $h \notin \mathcal{D}(M^{-1})$. These conditions also require that the boson field becomes infrared divergent [28, 29], i.e., the boson field is still defined on the Fock space, but the bare boson number diverges and the ground state disappears into the continuum.

This result was obtained for the vacuum as reference state. To investigate the model with a squeezed vacuum as reference state, we choose a symmetric Hilbert-Schmidt operator Ξ on \mathcal{H}_1 . The operator $S(\Xi)$ (34) generates the squeezed vacuum state

$$1_{\Xi} = S(\Xi)1_{vac} \in \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H}_1). \tag{72}$$

Now we make use of the identity (42) with the canonical transformation $G = G(\cosh \Xi, -\sinh \Xi) = G^{-1}(\cosh \Xi, \sinh \Xi)$. Then the trace in (67) follows from

$$\begin{pmatrix}
1_{\Xi} \mid W(\tilde{k}) 1_{\Xi} \end{pmatrix} = \left(1_{vac} \mid S^{\dagger}(\Xi)W(\tilde{k})S(\Xi) 1_{vac} \right) = \left(1_{vac} \mid W(G\,\tilde{k}) 1_{vac} \right) \\
= \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left\| G\,\tilde{k} \right\|^{2} \right)$$

where $\tilde{k} = (\alpha - \beta)k(t)$ with k(t) as in Eq. (68). The condition for induced superselection rules therefore depends on the divergence of

$$\left\| G \,\tilde{k}(t) \right\|^2 = (\alpha - \beta)^2 \left\| (\cosh \Xi) \, k(t) - (\sinh \Xi) \, k^*(t) \right\|^2$$

$$= (\alpha - \beta)^2 \left\| k(t) + (\cosh \Xi - I) \, k(t) - (\sinh \Xi) \, k^*(t) \right\|^2. \tag{73}$$

Since the mapping G is bounded and has a bounded inverse, this norm diverges exactly under the same conditions as (71) does. A closer inspection shows that the leading divergent contribution comes from k(t), which coincides with (68). The operators $\cosh \Xi - I$ and $\sinh \Xi$ are Hilbert-Schmidt operators and the terms $(\cosh \Xi - I) k(t)$ and $(\sinh \Xi) k^*(t)$ may substantially contribute at intermediate times, but the asymptotics for large times is dominated by k(t).

In [26] also the case of a bath with inverse temperature $\beta > 0$ has been considered. Then instead of the vacuum expectation (69) we need the expectation of the Weyl operator in a thermal state. For the boson system with the one-particle Hamiltonian M this expectation is the Gaussian function

$$\langle W(h) \rangle_{\beta} = \exp\left(-\left(h \mid \left((e^{\beta M} - I)^{-1} + \frac{1}{2}\right)h\right)\right),$$

which is always smaller than the vacuum expectation, $\langle W(h) \rangle_{\beta} < \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \|h\|^2\right)$. Hence superselection sectors are induced even faster than at temperature zero, if (71) diverges. In a squeezed temperature state the expectation of the Weyl operator is given by

$$\langle W(h) \rangle_{\beta,\Xi} = \langle W(G h)_{\beta},$$
 (74)

where G is again the canonical transformation $G = G(\cosh \Xi, -\sinh \Xi)$. As in the case of the vacuum, induced superselection sectors follow from the divergence of (73). Thereby the decoherence can be strongly influenced by squeezing at intermediate times, but the behavior at large times is the same as for the unsqueezed temperature state.

Thus we see that for this model, the squeezing of the bath does not put any check on the superselection properties of the system.

B. Open quantum system with a squeezed thermal bath

We take the model Hamiltonian

$$H = H_S + H_R + H_{SR}, (75)$$

where

$$H_S = \frac{1}{2}M \left[\dot{x}^2 + \Omega^2 x^2 \right]$$
 (76)

is the system Hamiltonian,

$$H_R = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \frac{1}{2} m_n \left[\dot{q_n}^2 + \omega_n^2 q_n^2 \right]$$
 (77)

is the reservoir Hamiltonian, and

$$H_{SR} = \sum_{n=1}^{N} [c_n x q_n] \tag{78}$$

is the system-reservoir interaction Hamiltonian. We use separable initial conditions, i.e., the system and reservoir are initially uncorrelated with the initial state of the reservoir being a squeezed thermal initial state

$$\rho_R(0) = S \,\rho_{th} \,S^{\dagger}. \tag{79}$$

Here

$$\rho_{th} = \left[1 - \exp\left(\frac{-\hbar\omega}{k_B T}\right)\right] \sum_{n} \exp\left(\frac{-n\hbar\omega}{k_B T}\right) |n\rangle\langle n| \tag{80}$$

is a thermal density matrix at temperature $T = \beta^{-1}$ and

$$S = S(\Xi) \tag{81}$$

is a squeeze operator of Section III, see also [22] and [30]. This definition of a squeezed thermal bath exactly corresponds to that of Section IV (A); the expectation of the Weyl operator in the state (80) has the form (74).

By taking the trace over the environment degrees of freedom, we obtain the master equation for the system of interest [31] from which we can get the Wigner equation by the following prescription [2, 32]

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}W(p,x,t) = \frac{1}{2\pi\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dy \ e^{\frac{i}{\hbar}py} \left\langle x - \frac{1}{2}y \middle| \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\rho_S \middle| x + \frac{1}{2}y \right\rangle. \tag{82}$$

The trace operation, to get the reduced density matrix, involved the expectation of the Weyl operator in the thermal state. This reveals the intimate connection of canonical transformations with open system dynamics. The connection between the Wigner function and the Weyl operator is illustrated by the following relation

$$C(\alpha, \beta) = \operatorname{tr}\left(\rho e^{i(\alpha \hat{x} + \beta \hat{p})}\right) = \int dx \int dp \ e^{i(\alpha x + \beta p)} W(x, p) \tag{83}$$

where $e^{i(\alpha \hat{x} + \beta \hat{p})}$ is the canonical form of the Weyl operator and W(x,p) is the Wigner function. The inverse of this function gives the Wigner function as a function of the trace as

$$W(x,p) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int d\alpha \int d\beta \ e^{-i(\alpha x + \beta p)} C(\alpha,\beta). \tag{84}$$

Thus the Wigner equation for the system of interest is obtained as

$$\frac{\partial W}{\partial t} = -\frac{1}{M} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} pW + M\Omega_{ren}^{2}(t) \frac{\partial}{\partial p} xW + 2\Gamma(t) \frac{\partial}{\partial p} pW
- \hbar D_{pp}(t) \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial p^{2}} W - \hbar \left(D_{xp}(t) + D_{px}(t)\right) \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x \partial p} W
- \hbar D_{xx}(t) \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}} W.$$
(85)

Up to this point our treatment has been exact and is valid for any reservoir spectral density. Now, for the simplicity of computations, we take an Ohmic reservoir with spectral density

$$I(\omega) = \frac{2}{\pi} \gamma_0 M \omega. \tag{86}$$

In the high temperature limit we can obtain the Wigner equation coefficients as [31]

$$\Omega_{ren}^{2}(t) = \frac{p^{2}}{4} + \zeta^{2},\tag{87}$$

$$\Gamma(t) = \frac{p}{2},\tag{88}$$

$$D_{xx}(t) = \frac{2k_B T \gamma_0}{\hbar M \zeta^2} \overline{K}_2 e^{-p(t-a)} \sin(\zeta t) \sin[\zeta (t-2a)], \tag{89}$$

$$D_{xp}(t) = D_{px}(t) = \frac{2k_B T \gamma_0}{\hbar \zeta^2} \left[\zeta \cot(\zeta t) - \frac{p}{2} \right] \times \overline{K}_2 e^{-p(t-a)} \sin(\zeta t) \sin[\zeta(t-2a)], \tag{90}$$

$$D_{pp}(t) = -\frac{2Mk_B T \gamma_0}{\hbar} \left[K_1 - \overline{K}_2 e^{-p(t-a)} \right]$$

$$\times \left\{ \left[\cos^2(\zeta t) + \frac{p^2}{4\zeta^2} \sin^2(\zeta t) - \frac{p}{2\zeta} \sin(2\zeta t) \right] - 1 \right\}$$

$$\times \frac{\sin[\zeta(t-2a)]}{\sin(\zeta t)} .$$

$$(91)$$

Here

$$p = 4\gamma_0, \tag{92}$$

$$\zeta = \left(\Omega^2 - \frac{p^2}{4}\right)^{1/2},\tag{93}$$

$$K_1 = \cosh(2r(\omega)) = \cosh(2r),\tag{94}$$

$$\overline{K}_2 = \sinh(2r(\omega)) = \sinh(2r), \tag{95}$$

$$\theta(\omega) = a\omega, \tag{96}$$

where a is a constant depending upon the squeezing parameters. Here r and θ refer to the amplitude and the phase parts respectively of the complex term in the squeezing operator (cf. ξ in Eq. (43)). The case where there is no squeezing can be obtained from the above equations by setting K_1 to one and \overline{K}_2 and a to zero.

In the Wigner equation coefficients given by Eqs. (88) to (91), Γ denotes the term generating dissipation, D_{xx} is responsible for diffusion in p^2 , D_{xp} and D_{px} (called the anomalous diffusion terms) generate diffusion in xp + px while D_{pp} is the term responsible for decoherence in x.

It can be seen from the above expressions that for the case of phase insensitive thermal reservoirs we recover the usual high-T results, i.e., the decoherence generating term D_{pp} is a constant proportional to the temperature while the dissipation generating term Γ is equal to $2\gamma_0$. The other terms D_{xx} (diffusion in p^2) and D_{xp} , D_{px} (diffusion in xp + px) are zero.

For the case of phase sensitive squeezed thermal reservoir we find that the above terms are now proportional to the factor $\overline{K}_2 = \sinh(2r)$ which is a manifestation of the nonstationarity introduced into the system by the squeezing of the bath and goes to zero for the case of no squeezing. All these terms are also proportional to an exponential factor $e^{-p(t-a)}$ which, after a time-scale of $t_0 = a + \frac{c_1}{4\gamma_0}$, drives these terms to zero thereby attaining the usual thermal state. However, this time-scale is much greater than the usual time-scales of decoherence thereby demonstrating that squeezing of the reservoir can greatly influence the decoherence properties of the system [12, 13].

V. Discussion and conclusions

In this paper, we enunciated the general framework of canonical transformations with some applications. After a recapitulation of canonical transformations where we set up the criteria for a transformation to be canonical, we showed the connection between the exponential vectors, the coherent states and the Weyl operators. We also introduced a more general class of Fock space vectors, the ultracoherent vectors. We then set up the unitary ray representations of the group of canonical transformations and applied the unitary operator of the representation to the exponential vector, relegating its action on the ultracoherent vector to the Appendix A. An important relation showing the connection between the Weyl operator and the homogeneous canonical transformations was also given. Two general classes of canonical transformations, one involving self-adjoint operators and the other involving symmetric Hilbert-Schmidt operators were discussed and their Lie algebraic structure illustrated.

The rotation and squeezing operators, which have many applications in physics, belong to the above two classes. This connection was demonstrated by analyzing the single-mode as well as the n-mode squeeze operators which were then shown to be elements of the general group of canonical transformations. Making use of this identification, we used their unitary ray representations on the exponential as well as the ultracoherent vectors.

We then discussed the effect of squeezing of the bath on the decohering properties of the system. First, we took up the case of a bath consisting of a massless bosonic field with the bath reference states being the squeezed vacuum and squeezed thermal states. The reduced density matrix involved the evaluation of a trace which had the Hamiltonian of the van Hove model in it. Provided that the Hamiltonian is semi-bounded superselection rules are induced exactly under the condition that the boson field is infrared divergent, i.e., the vacuum state disappears in the continuum. Depending on the squeezing parameters of the reservoir the decay rate of the quantum coherences can be suppressed or enhanced at intermediate times, but the large time behavior and the superselection structure is not affected by squeezing.

We then studied the effect of a squeezed thermal reservoir on the decoherence properties of the system of a harmonic oscillator with the reservoir being a standard harmonic one. We found that squeezing, resulting in the development of correlations between bath modes, can significantly influence the decoherence properties of the system and can slow down the process of decoherence. In addition to the decoherence causing term $(D_{pp}(t))$, we found that the terms governing diffusion in p^2 $(D_{xx}(t))$ and the anomalous diffusion terms $(D_{xp}(t), D_{px}(t))$ are also influenced by squeezing. But in the limit of large times the final state of the system is always the thermal state.

In Appendix A we discuss the action of the unitary ray representation of the group of canonical transformations on the ultracoherent vectors, the inner product of two ultracoherent vectors and the matrix element of the Weyl operator between two ultracoherent vectors.

We have thus presented a general perspective of canonical transformations.

APPENDIX A: ULTRACOHERENT VECTORS AND CANONICAL TRANSFORMATIONS

The details for the following statements are presented in [15]. The ultracoherent vectors $\exp(\Omega(A)+f)$ with $A \in \mathcal{D}_1$ and $f \in \mathcal{H}$ have been defined in (2). Thereby \mathcal{D}_1 is the set of all symmetric Hilbert-Schmidt operators A on a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} with all eigenvalues of AA^{\dagger} strictly less than one. This convex set of operators is usually called the Siegel disc. The inner product of two ultracoherent vectors is

$$(\exp(\Omega(A) + f) \mid \exp(\Omega(B) + g)) = \left(\det_{\mathcal{H}} \left(I - A^{\dagger}B\right)\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \times \exp\left\{\frac{1}{2}\left\langle f^* \mid Cf^* \right\rangle + \left\langle f^* \mid (I - BA^{\dagger})^{-1} g \right\rangle + \frac{1}{2}\left\langle g \mid D g \right\rangle\right\}$$
(A1)

where

$$C = B(I - A^{\dagger}B)^{-1} = (I - BA^{\dagger})^{-1}B,$$
 (A2)

$$D = A^{\dagger} + A^{\dagger} C A^{\dagger} = A^{\dagger} (I - B A^{\dagger})^{-1} = (I - A^{\dagger} B)^{-1} A^{\dagger}. \tag{A3}$$

The ultracoherent vector is uniquely determined by its inner product with the exponential vectors, which follows from (A1) as

$$(\exp z \mid \exp(\Omega(A) + f)) = \exp\left(\frac{1}{2}\langle z^* \mid Az^* \rangle + \langle z^* \mid f \rangle\right). \tag{A4}$$

This antianalytic function $z \in \mathcal{H} \to \exp\left(\frac{1}{2}\langle z^* \mid Az^* \rangle + \langle z^* \mid f \rangle\right)$ represents the ultracoherent vector in the Bargmann-Fock picture of the Fock space.

A unitary ray representation T(G) of the group of canonical transformations can be defined on the Fock space by the action of T(G) on ultracoherent vectors

$$T(G)\exp\left(\Omega(A) + f\right) = \det|U|^{-\frac{1}{2}}\det\left(I + V^{\dagger}U^{\dagger - 1}A\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\times \exp\left\{\Omega(\zeta(G; A)) + (U^{\dagger} + AV^{\dagger})^{-1}f - \frac{1}{2}\left\langle f \mid V^{\dagger}(U^{\dagger} + AV^{\dagger})^{-1}f\right\rangle\right\}$$
(A5)

where

$$A \to \zeta(G; A) = (U^{\dagger} + AV^{\dagger})^{-1}(V^T + AU^T)$$
 (A6)

is the group action on the Siegel disc \mathcal{D}_1 . The definition (A5) satisfies the product law $T(G_2)T(G_1) = \omega(G_2, G_1)T(G_2G_1)$ with a phase factor $\omega(G_2, G_1) \in \mathbb{C}$, $|\omega(G_2, G_1)| = 1$. The restriction of (A5) to exponential vectors yields the Eq. (27) of Sect. II. Since transformations on the Fock space are uniquely determined by their action on exponential vectors, one can derive (A5) from (27) using the inner product formula (A1).

The matrix element of the Weyl operator between two ultracoherent vectors can be calculated from (13) and (A1). Here we only give the result for exponential vectors

$$(\exp f \mid W(h) \exp g) = \exp\left((f \mid g) + (f \mid h) - (h \mid g) - \frac{1}{2} \|h\|^2 \right), \tag{A7}$$

which includes the vacuum expectation for f = g = 0. From Eq. (A7) we can deduce Eq. (9). From Eqs. (13), (A5) and (A7) one can easily deduce the important identity (42).

- [*] Author to whom correspondence should be addressed. Electronic address: kupsch@physik.uni-kl.de
- [1] Y. S. Kim and M. E. Noz, Phase Space Picture of Quantum Mechanics (World Scientific, 1991).
- [2] M. Hillery, R. F. O'Connell, M. O. Scully, and E. P. Wigner, Phys. Rep. 106, 121 (1984).
- [3] R. P. Feynman and F. L. Vernon, Ann. Phys. (N.Y.) 24, 118 (1963).
- [4] A. O. Caldeira and A. J. Leggett, Physica A 121, 587 (1983).
- [5] E. Joos, H. D. Zeh, C. Kiefer, D. Giulini, J. Kupsch, and I. O. Stamatescu, Decoherence and the Appearance of a Classical World in Quantum Theory (Springer, Berlin, 2nd edition, 2003).
- [6] S. Banerjee and R. Ghosh, Phys. Rev. E 67, 056120 (2003).
- [7] L. Viola and S. Lloyd, Phys. Rev. A 58, 2733 (1998).
- P. W. Shor, Phys. Rev. A 52, R2493 (1995); A. M. Steane, Proc. R. Soc. London, Ser. A 452, 2551 (1995); E. Knill and R. Laflamme, Phys. Rev. A 55, 900 (1997).
- [9] P. Zanardi and M. Rasetti, Phys. Rev. Lett. 79, 3306 (1997); L. M. Duan and G. C. Guo, ibid 79, 1953 (1997); D. A. Lidar, I. L. Chuang, and K. B. Whaley, ibid 81, 2594 (1998).
- [10] D. Vitali and P. Tombesi, Phys. Rev. A 65, 012305 (2001).
- [11] G. S. Agarwal, Phys. Rev. A 61, 013809 (1999); K. M. Fonseca-Romero, S. Kohler and P. Hänggi, Chem. Phys. 296, 307 (2004).
- [12] T. A. B. Kennedy and D. F. Walls, Phys. Rev. A 37, 152 (1988).
- [13] M. S. Kim and V. Bužek, Phys. Rev. A 47, 610 (1993).
- [14] C.M. Caves, Phys. Rev. D 26, 1817 (1982); G.J. Milburn, J. Phys. A 17, 737 (1984); A.K. Ekert and P.L. Knight, Phys. Rev. A 42, 487 (1990).
- [15] J. Kupsch and S. Banerjee, Los Alamos Preprint Archive: arXiv:math-ph/0410049.
- [16] W. Slowikowski, Adv. Appl. Math. 9, 377 (1988).
- [17] F. A. Berezin, The Method of Second Quantization (Academic Press, New York, 1966).
- [18] N. Bogoliubov, J. Phys. USSR 11, 23 (1947).
- [19] V. Bargmann. Group representations on Hilbert spaces of analytic functions. In R. P. Gilbert and R. G. Newton, editors, Analytic Methods in Mathematical Physics, pages 27–63, New York, 1970. Gordon and Breach.
- [20] P. Kristensen, L. Mejlbo, and E. T. Poulsen, Commun. Math. Phys. 6, 29 (1967).
- [21] X. Ma and W. Rhodes, Phys. Rev. A 41, 4625 (1990).
- [22] C. M. Caves and B. L. Schumaker, Phys. Rev. A 31, 3068 (1985); B. L. Schumaker and C. M. Caves, Phys. Rev. A 31, 3093 (1985).
- [23] R. A. Fisher, M. M. Nieto and V. D. Sandberg, Phys. Rev. D 29, 1107 (1984).
- [24] C. Itzykson, Commun. Math. Phys. 4, 92 (1967).
- [25] J. Kupsch, J. Math. Phys. 41, 5945 (2000).
- [26] J. Kupsch, Los Alamos Preprint Archive: arXiv:math-ph/0402055v2.
- [27] L. van Hove, Physica 18, 145 (1952).

- [28] B. Schroer, Fortschr. Physik ${\bf 11},\,1$ (1963).
- [29] A. Arai and M. Hirokawa, Rev. Math. Phys. 12, 1085 (2000).
 [30] B. L. Hu and A. Matacz, Phys. Rev. D 49, 6612 (1994).
 [31] S. Banerjee, Physica A 337, 67 (2004).
 [32] H. Dekker, Phys. Rev. A 16, 2116 (1977).